THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) No such offer has been made to separatist organisations.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) During his visit J&K on 26-27 July, 1997, the then Prime Minister had made an appeal to the misguided youth of the State, who have joined the militant ranks, to give up their guns, and said that the Government was prepared to have unconditions talks with them, to enable them to rejoin the mainstream. The Government is committed to the said offer of talks, within the constitutional frame work.

Land lord forced to sell house At Gunpoint

3409. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item 'Armed men force landlord to sell house at gunpoint' appearing in the "Times of India" dated the 14th January, 2000; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and what steps are proposed to be taken to control effectively such brazen attempts to forcibly take possession of property and create serious threats to life and property?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A case was registered on 13th January, 2000 at Rajender Nagar Police Station after preliminary verification of the complaint received on 12th January, 2000. Three of the accused were arrested and released on bail by the Court. The three other accused persons are on interim bail.

Delhi Police has been making concerted efforts for prevention of such crimes. All Station House Officers have been directed to pay personal attention to the complaints of criminal trespass. Property dealers suspected to be involved in such nefarious dealing are kept under close surveillance and their antecedents are verified and scrutinized.